



A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1969.

BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1969.

To : The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses
of the Borough of Boston,

being the Boston Port Health Authority, as constituted by
the Boston Port Orders, 1933 and 1939.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the
Port Medical Officer of Health of the Boston Port Health
Authority for the year ended 31st December, 1969.

As in previous years the report has been prepared in
accordance with the instructions set out in Form Port 20 of the
Department of Health and Social Security.

During 1969 there was a further decrease in the number
of ships entering the port, 993 compared with 1,080 in 1968.
This was 87 less than in the previous year and was largely
accounted for by the small number of coastwise ships using the
dock. They numbered 57 against 110 in 1968. The total tonnage
fell to 260,691 in 1969 as against 273,847 in 1968. This is a
very different picture to the figures of say 5 years ago when
the numbers were 1,328 ships from foreign ports; 362 for coastal
ports giving a total of 1,690 with a total tonnage of 368,602.

During the year 137 ships were inspected by the Port
Health Inspectors.

No cases of notifiable disease occurred in any of the
ships whilst in port, but one ship was boarded on arrival by the
Port Medical Officer as 6 of the crew had been ill during the
voyage. They had all recovered by the time the ship reached
Boston and the cause of the sickness was almost certainly Asian
type Influenza.

The principal ports from which ships arrived remained very
much the same as in previous years as indeed did the imports and
exports.

During the year 33 Deratting Exemption Certificates were
issued, 6 more than in the previous year. The number of Inward
passengers fell to 35 compared with 62 in 1968, whilst the
number of Outgoing passengers also was reduced from 57 to 44.

I should like to thank the Officers of H.M. Customs and
Waterguard for their reports and co-operation, the Port Health
Inspectors, the Port Manager and his staff and all others
connected with the Port for their continued assistance during
1969.

Yours faithfully,

G. HIRD.

Port Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
6, Bridge Street,
BOSTON, Lincs.

SECTION I - Staff.

TABLE A.

Name of officer.	Nature of appointment.	Date of appointment.	Qualifications.	Any other appointments held.
HIRD, G.	Port Medical Officer of Health.	1- 5-58.	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Assistant C.M.O.- Holland County Council. Medical Officer of Health-Borough of Boston. Medical Officer of Health-Boston R.D.C.
CHAMBERLAIN, G.E.	Chief Port Health Inspector.	15-10-45.	Cert.S.I.B., Cert. Meat & Food Inspector.	Chief Public Health Inspector- Borough of Boston.
MILSOM, D.H.	Deputy Chief Port Health Inspector.	1-10-59.	Cert.S.I.B., Cert. Meat & Food Inspector.	Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector- Borough of Boston.
BOWRAN, C.D.	Additional Port Health Inspector.	17- 7-67.	Dip. P.H.I.E.B.	Additional Public Health Inspector- Borough of Boston.

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health.) Public Health Department, 6, Bridge Street, BOSTON, Lincs. BOSTON 4601 (six lines).

SECTION II - Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.

TABLE B.

Ships from.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board.
			By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Port Health Inspectors.	
Foreign Ports.	936.	247,345.	2.	133.	Nil.
Coastwise.	57.	13,346.	Nil.	4.	Nil.
Total.	993.	260,691.	2.	137.	Nil.

SECTION III - Character of shipping and trade during the year.

TABLE C.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC ...	Number of passengers INWARDS : 35 Number of passengers OUTWARDS : 44
CARGO TRAFFIC ...	<p>Principal IMPORTS : Aluminium Ingots, Battens and Boards, Deals, Fertilizers, Fruit and Vegetables, Glucose, Grain, Perlite, Potatoes, Salt, Sand, Sleepers, Starch, Steel, Telegraph Poles and General.</p> <p>Principal EXPORTS : Cattle, Coal, Fertilizers, Grain, Pig Iron, Potatoes, Sleepers, Steel and General.</p>
FOREIGN PORTS from which ships arrive ...	<p>ALGERIA : Algiers.</p> <p>BALEARIC ISLANDS : Palma.</p> <p>BELGIUM : Antwerp, Nieuport, Ghent.</p> <p>CANADA : Newfoundland.</p> <p>CANARY ISLANDS : Teneriffe.</p> <p>CYPRUS : Famagusta.</p> <p>DENMARK : Augustenborg, Esbjerg, Skagen, Thyboron.</p> <p>EGYPT : Alexandria.</p> <p>FINLAND : Hamina, Haukipudas, Helsinki, Kasko, Mantyluoto, Tolkis, Yxpila.</p> <p>FRANCE : Bayonne, Brest, Bordeaux, Caen, Le Legué, St. Malo.</p> <p>GERMANY : Hamburg, Neuss, Rostock, Wismar.</p> <p>GREECE : Milos.</p> <p>HOLLAND : Amsterdam, Koog Aan De Zaan, Maassluis, Middleburg, Rotterdam, Terneuzen, Ymuiden.</p> <p>ITALY : Salerno, Porto Torres.</p> <p>MOROCCO : Agadir, Casablanca, Tangier,</p> <p>NORWAY : Aaheim, Floro, Stavanger, Haugesand, Moss, Oksfjord.</p> <p>POLAND : Danzig, Gdansk, Stettin.</p> <p>PORTUGAL : Leixoes, Lisbon.</p> <p>RUSSIA : Archangel, Igarka, Leningrad, Onega.</p> <p>SARDINIA : Oristano.</p> <p>SICILY : Palermo.</p> <p>SPAIN : Carthagena.</p> <p>SWEDEN : Burea, Domsjo, Kalmar, Karlshamn, Karlstad, Kopings, Norrkoping, Oskarshamn, Oxelosund.</p>

SECTION IV - Inland Barge Traffic

No inland barge traffic entered the port during the year.

SECTION V - Water supply.

1. Source of supply for
 - (a) The District. - NO CHANGE -
 - (b) Shipping.
2. Reports of tests for contamination.
- NO CHANGE -
3. Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.
- NO CHANGE -
4. Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.

There are no water boats in the Port.

- NO CHANGE -

SECTION VI - Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

1. List of Infected Areas. (Regulation 6).
Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure for supplying it to those persons.
- NO CHANGE -
2. Radio Messages.
 - (a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district. (Regulation 13).
 - (b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14 (1) (a) and (2)).

Boston is not a radio transmitting or receiving port.

- NO CHANGE -
3. Notifications otherwise than by radio. (Regulation 14 (1) (b)).
Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.
- NO CHANGE -
4. Mooring Stations. (Regulations 22 to 30).
Situation of stations, and any standing directions issued under these Regulations.
- NO CHANGE -
5. Arrangements for :-
 - (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox - see Section VII) :
- NO CHANGE -
 - (b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts :
- NO CHANGE -
 - (c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles :
- NO CHANGE -

SECTION VII - Smallpox.

1. Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district.

All cases of smallpox are sent to the Hallwood Smallpox Hospital, Chapeltown. The administration of this Hospital is carried out from Lodge Moor Hospital, Sheffield - Telephone No. Sheffield 33941.

2. Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

The transport of all cases of smallpox is the responsibility of the Leicester County Council who will provide ambulances together with specially trained and vaccinated crews.

3. Names of smallpox consultants available.

Dr. P.J. Moroney,
Consultant in Infectious
Diseases,
Lodge Moor Hospital,
Sheffield, 10.

Dr. G. Nisbet,
The Town Hall,
Bridge Street,
Peterborough,
Northants.

4. Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

Where laboratory diagnosis is required specimens are sent to Professor K. McCarthy, Department of Bacteriology, Medical School, Ashton Street, Liverpool, 3.

SECTION VIII - Venereal Disease.

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

- NO CHANGE -

SECTION IX - Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships.

TABLE D.

Category.	Disease.	Number of cases during the year.		Number of ships concerned.
		Passengers.	Crew.	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Cases landed from other ships.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

No cases of Smallpox, Cholera, Plague, Yellow Fever, Typhus or Relapsing Fever occurred during the year 1969.

SECTION X - Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships.

There have been no cases of Malaria occurring on any arriving ship.

SECTION XI - Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague.

No "infected" or "suspected" ships entered the port during 1969.

SECTION XII - Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports.

1. Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

All ships from "infected ports" are searched for evidence of rats (excreta, gnawings, runs, etc.) and traps are set for confirmation of findings. Similar precautions are taken if the crew or stevedores report indications of rats on other ships or if routine inspections reveal suspicious circumstances.

2. Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

Bodies of rodents are sent for routine examination for plague to the Public Health Laboratory, St. Anne's Road, Lincoln, but during 1969 no bodies were recovered from ships using the port.

3. Arrangements in the district for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.

Boston is not a designated approved port and there are no standing arrangements for the deratting of ships.

4. Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

Any work found to be necessary is carried out under the supervision of the Chief Port Health Inspector.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Category.	Number.
Black rats	Nil.
Brown rats	Nil.
Species not known	Nil.
Sent for examination ..	Nil.
Infected with plague ..	Nil.

TABLE F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

Boston is not a designated approved port and therefore no Deratting Certificates have been issued.

Net tonnage.	No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued.
Ships up to 300 tons.	17.
Ships from 301 - 1,000 tons.	16.
Ships from 1,001 - 3,000 tons.	Nil.
Total.	33.

SECTION XIII - Inspection of ships for nuisances.

TABLE G.
Inspections and Notices.

Number of ships inspected: 137.

Nature of Nuisances.	Found.	Remedied.
Defects of Original Construction.	-	-
Defects due to Wear and Tear.	2.	-
Dirt, Vermin, etc.	7.	7.

	<u>Served.</u>	<u>Complied with.</u>
Statutory Notices	Nil.	Nil.
Other Notices	9.	7.

SECTION XIV - Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948.

There are Mussel and Cockle Beds both within and without the Area of the Port Health Authority in the Wash. These are periodically inspected and samples of the shell-fish are taken for analysis.

No action was necessary during the year 1969, either under the Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948, or the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

SECTION XV - Medical Inspection of Aliens.

- NO CHANGE -

SECTION XVI - Miscellaneous.

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

- NO CHANGE -

Food Inspection.

The principal food imports were as follows :-

<u>Commodity.</u>	<u>Tons.</u>
Grain. (in)	28,802.
Potatoes.	17,245.
Onions.	12,007.
Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.	11,166.
Vegetables in Tins.	12,689.
Milk in Tins.	7,346.
Glucose.	6,297.
Starch.	6,296.
Fruit in Tins.	2,988.
Honey.	2,858.
Tomato Puree.	1,820.
Vegetables in Brine.	302.
Meat in Tins.	265.
Dehydrated Vegetables.	254.
Dates.	160.
Macaroni.	150.
Orange Juice.	60.
Tomato Juice.	39.
Garlic.	36.
Miscellaneous.	57.

Food re-exported.

Grain. 5,609.

During the year the following amounts of foodstuffs were found to be unfit and were destroyed :-

Carrots.	530 tons.	1 cwt.	28 lbs.
Potatoes.	91 tons.	1 cwt.	32 lbs.
Onions.	25 tons.	5 cwts.	35 lbs.
Tomatoes.	25 Boats.		
Peaches.	61 Large Trays.		

